

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 12, 13, 15, 16, 20 and 25-29 have been rejected under §112, second paragraph. In response, Applicants have amended claim 12, cancelled claim 26 and withdrew claims 13, 20 and 25 from prosecution. Presently, claims 12, 15, 16 and 26-29 are pending examination.

§112 Rejection

Claims 12, 13, 15, 16, 20 and 25-29 have been rejected under §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner asserts that “phenol” was elected in response to a species election requirement, but the pending claims create confusion about the election. For example, claim 25 recites that “catechol is 3-methylcatechol.” In response, claim 12 has been amended to be limited to “phenol.” Claim 26 has been cancelled, and claims 13, 20 and 25 have been withdrawn from prosecution.

Applicants submit that the claims are now clear and definite in scope. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the §112 rejection.

If resolution of any remaining issue is required, it is respectfully requested that the examiner contact applicants’ attorney at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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